



Foreign Agricultural Service

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## **Thailand**

### **Grain and Feed**

### **Weekly Rice Price Update**

**2002**

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#### **Report Highlights:**

**Export prices temporarily increase reacting to the short rice supply as the Baht depreciation made Thai origin rice attractive on international markets.**

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Includes PSD changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Bangkok [TH1], TH

**Indicative Price (Week Ending Oct 7):**

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	340	330	382	356	350	335	340	348	346
WR 100 B	191	188	192	188	189	189	184	189	188
PB 5%	191	185	191	192	192	195	190	191	191
WR 5%	187	183	186	183	184	184	180	184	183
WR 10%	183	178	181	181	178	181	176	180	179
WR 15%	180	175	177	179	174	178	170	176	175
WR 25%	173	170	173	172	170	171	166	171	170
WR 35%	169	169	171	170	165	167	161	167	166
A 1 SUP	161	152	164	158	151	160	150	157	152
A 1 SPEC	160	149	163	157	150	NQ	148	155	150
Source: Average actual prices are received from exporters									

**Market Tone**

Despite Thai baht's further weakening to the six-month low at 43.7 baht/U.S. dollar, export prices for most grade of rices ticked up slightly due to the tightening rice supply after a substantial sale of local rice. However, trade sources expect the tight supply situation will last until the end of this month when the harvesting of 2002/03 paddy crop is to start.

Trade sources also expect that the recent flooding will only reduce the coming crop by 2-3 TMT, far below the official preliminary estimate of over a 5 thousand ton drop as paddy resowing is expected to be significant, particularly in the upper part of the Central Plain.

**The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):**

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
SEP 7	102,917	94,133	4,000	4,571
SEP 14	87,178	97,772	4,087	4,761
SEP 21	94,086	95,681	4,182	4,921
SEP 28	109,612	98,448	4,292	5,107
OCT 5	147,337	109,553	4,439	5,267

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002 do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports for Sep 30 - Oct 5, 2002 totaled 147,337 tons, up 37,725 tons from the previous week and 37,784 tons from the four week moving average of 109,553 tons.

Exports during Jan1- Oct 6, 2002 amounted to 4,443,761 tons, compared with 5,266,735 tons (including fragrant rice) during the same period in 2001.

Fragrant rice exports during Jan - Aug 2002 totaled 685,267 tons. Total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan - Aug 2002 were 4,511,171 tons, up 2.8% from the corresponding period in 2001.

**Weekly Rice Sales**

Private registered rice export sales for the period Sep 16-20, Sep 23-27, and Sep 30-Oct 4 are as follows:

Movement	Sep 16-20	Sep 23-27	Sep 30-Oct 4
weekly sales	113,500	116,430	152,615
4 week sum	414,830	450,913	541,401
4 week mov avg.	103,708	112,728	135,350
Total weekly sales	3,250,815	3,367,245	3,519,860